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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Leo G. FRENKEN *et al.*

Application No.: 09/626,242

Filed: September 27, 2000

For: **Method for producing antibody fragments**

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) Group Art Unit: 1627
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) Examiner: Padmashiri Ponnaluri
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 18, 2002 (paper no. 12), the period for response to which is extended to November 18, 2002 by the accompanying petition for a one-month extension of time, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-4, drawn to an expression library comprising a repertoire of nucleic acid sequences cloned from a non-immunized source), with traverse.

An authorization to charge the deposit account of the undersigned to cover the cost of the extension of time is also enclosed.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated September 18, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the following comments made in response. With respect to the traversal, Applicants respectfully request that the claim of Group II, claim 5, drawn a method of preparing a library according to claim 3 or 4, be examined with the elected expression library claims of Group I. In International Application PCT/EP99/00481, of which the instant application is the U.S. national phase under 35 U.S.C. 371, no lack of unity of invention was held, and the claims were examined together as one group. The expression libraries of claims 1-4 are defined as the product of the method of preparing a library of claim 5, and these expression libraries and the method of preparing them are thereby linked by this technical feature, forming a single inventive concept. Further, the special technical feature that distinguishes the invention from the prior art, as noted in the

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